

# **Legal Representation for Indigent Defense House File 189**

Last Action:

**House Judiciary  
Committee**

January 30, 2007

## **Executive Summary Only**

**An Act relating to the hourly reimbursement rate of attorneys representing indigent persons.**

**Fiscal Services Division  
Legislative Services Agency**

### **NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS (NOBA)**

Available on line at <http://www3.legis.state.ia.us/noba/index.jsp>

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY NOTES ON BILLS AND AMENDMENTS**

## **HOUSE FILE 189 LEGAL REPRESENTATION FOR INDIGENT DEFENSE**

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- House File 189 increases the hourly reimbursement rate for court-appointed counsel in FY 2008 as follows:
  - Class A felony – from \$65 to \$70 per hour (increased by \$5 per hour in FY 2007).
  - Class B felony – from \$60 to \$65 per hour (increased by \$5 per hour in FY 2007).
  - Class C and D felonies remain at \$60 per hour. The rate was increased by \$10 per hour in FY 2007.
  - Misdemeanors remain at \$60 per hour. The rate was increased by \$10 per hour in FY 2007.
  - All other cases, such as juvenile proceedings – from \$55 to \$60 per hour (increased by \$5 per hour in FY 2007).
- General Fund appropriations for indigent defense are included in the Justice System Appropriations Bill.
- The fiscal impact of increasing the reimbursement rate for Class A and B felonies and other cases by \$5 per hour is estimated to be \$900,000 in FY 2008 and an additional \$300,000 in FY 2009.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**